Senate Bill No. 1060

CHAPTER 605

An act to amend Sections 6459, 7093.5, 7326, 8105, 9271, 30459.1, 32471, 40211, 41171, 43522, 45867, 46622, 50156.11, 55332, 60022, 60507, 60604, 60606, and 60636 of, to add Section 6451.5 to, and to repeal Section 7262.7 of, the Revenue and Taxation Code, relating to taxation.

[Approved by Governor September 28, 2003. Filed with Secretary of State September 29, 2003.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1060, Committee on Revenue and Taxation. Tax administration.

(1) Existing law provides that the sales and use taxes are due and payable to the State Board of Equalization quarterly on or before the last day of the month next succeeding each quarterly period.

This bill would modify these provisions to require the purchaser to pay the use tax imposed on the gross receipts from the storage, use, or other consumption in this state of tangible personal property on or before the 15th day of the fourth month following the taxable year, as defined, in which the storage, use, or other consumption of the property first becomes taxable. The bill would exempt from this requirement certain persons, as provided. This bill would not apply to use tax due from the sale of, or the storage, use, or other consumption in this state of, certain specified tangible personal property.

(2) Existing law requires the State Board of Equalization to administer various taxes and fees. The State Board of Equalization, as part of its administrative functions, is authorized to enter into settlement agreements if it is determined that the settlement amount is consistent with a reasonable evaluation of the costs and risks associated with litigation. Under existing law, the State Board of Equalization is required to maintain records of settlement agreements in an amount that is in excess of \$500. There is no provision in current law that authorizes the State Board of Equalization to destroy those records after a reasonable period of time has elapsed.

This bill would provide that the State Board of Equalization is required to maintain those settlement agreement documents for at least one year.

(3) Existing law requires sales and use tax returns to be filed and payments to be remitted on or before the last day of the month following the close of the reporting period. Existing law extends the time for filing

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tax returns and remitting payments in the case of a taxpayer that, as a result of the delay in the adoption of the state's budget, is an unpaid creditor of the state to the last day of the month in which the budget is adopted.

This bill would increase the extension of the time for filing the tax return and remitting the payment to the last day of the month following the month in which the budget is adopted.

(4) Existing law authorizes the Board of Supervisors of the County of Stanislaus to impose a transactions and use tax by adoption of an ordinance, as specified, if certain conditions are satisfied.

This bill would repeal these provisions.

(5) The existing Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax Law and Diesel Fuel Tax Law authorize a taxpayer to file a claim for refund within 3 years from the date the fuel was purchased.

This bill would authorize a taxpayer to file a claim for refund within 3 years from the date the fuel was purchased, or within 6 months from the date the taxpayer received the invoice for the tax, whichever period occurs later.

(6) The Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax Law imposes a tax on motor vehicle fuel at the point of the first distribution of that fuel, but does not exclude racing fuel from the definition of motor vehicle fuel.

This bill would exclude racing fuel from the definition of motor vehicle fuel.

(7) The provision of the existing Diesel Fuel Tax Law, which is scheduled to become inoperative on January 1, 2007, that defines the term diesel fuel, excludes from that definition gasoline, liquefied petroleum gas, natural gas in a liquid or gaseous form, and alcohol.

This bill would, for the period beginning on and after January 1, 2007, exclude gasoline, liquefied petroleum gas, natural gas in a liquid or gaseous form, and alcohol from the definition of diesel fuel.

(8) The existing Diesel Fuel Tax Law requires specified persons that are involved in the sale, removal, transportation, or storage of diesel fuel to keep and maintain specified records.

This bill would expand this recordkeeping requirement to qualified highway vehicle operators, highway vehicle operator/refuelers, pipeline operators, and vessel operators.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 6451.5 is added to the Revenue and Taxation Code, to read:

6451.5. (a) Notwithstanding Section 6451, the use taxes imposed by this part with respect to the storage, use, or other consumption in this

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state of tangible personal property are due and payable by the purchaser on or before the 15th day of the fourth month following the taxable year in which the storage, use, or other consumption of the property first becomes taxable.

- (b) For purposes of this section, "taxable year" means the calendar year or the fiscal year upon the basis of which the taxable income is computed pursuant to the Personal Income Tax Law (Part 10 (commencing with Section 17001)) or the Corporation Tax Law (Part 11 (commencing with Section 23001)). If no fiscal year has been established, "taxable year" means the calendar year.
- (c) This section does not apply to a person who is otherwise required to hold a seller's permit or to register with the board pursuant to this part, or to any person with purchases subject to use tax that exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) during any calendar quarter of the taxable year for which the return is filed.
- (d) This section shall not apply to use tax due from the sale of, or the storage, use, or other consumption in this state of the following:
- (1) Use tax that applies to a mobilehome or a commercial coach that is required to be registered annually pursuant to the Health and Safety Code.
- (2) Use tax that applies to a vessel or aircraft, as defined in Article 1 (commencing with Section 6271) of Chapter 3.5 of this part.
- (3) Use tax that applies to a vehicle required to be registered under the Vehicle Code, a vehicle subject to identification under Division 16.5 (commencing with Section 38000) of the Vehicle Code, or to a vehicle that qualifies under the permanent trailer identification plate program pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 5014.1 of the Vehicle Code.
 - (4) Use tax imposed on a lessee of tangible personal property.
- SEC. 2. Section 6459 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is amended to read:
- 6459. (a) The board for good cause may extend, not to exceed one month, the time for making any return or paying any amount required to be paid under this part. The extension may be granted at any time provided a request therefor is filed with the board within or prior to the period for which the extension may be granted.

Any person to whom an extension is granted shall pay, in addition to the tax, interest at the modified adjusted rate per month, or fraction thereof, established pursuant to Section 6591.5, from the date on which the tax would have been due without the extension until the date of payment.

- (b) The board may grant an extension for more than one month if both of the following conditions occur:
 - (1) A budget for the state has not been adopted by July 1.

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(2) The person requesting the extension is a creditor of the state who has not been paid because of the state's failure to timely adopt a budget.

Any extension granted under this subdivision shall expire no later than the last day of the month following the month, in which the budget is adopted or one month from the due date of the return or payment, whichever comes later.

Any person to whom an extension has been granted under this subdivision shall pay, in addition to the tax, interest at the modified adjusted rate per month, or fraction thereof, established pursuant to Section 6591.5, from the date on which the tax would have been due without the extension until the date of payment. However, no interest shall be due on that portion of the payment equivalent to the amount due to the person from the state on the due date of the payment.

- SEC. 3. Section 7093.5 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is amended to read:
- 7093.5. (a) It is the intent of the Legislature that the State Board of Equalization, its staff, and the Attorney General pursue settlements as authorized under this section with respect to civil tax matters in dispute that are the subject of protests, appeals, or refund claims, consistent with a reasonable evaluation of the costs and risks associated with litigation of these matters.
- (b) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (3) and subject to paragraph (2), the executive director or chief counsel, if authorized by the executive director, of the board may recommend to the State Board of Equalization, itself, a settlement of any civil tax matter in dispute.
- (2) No recommendation of settlement shall be submitted to the board, itself, unless and until that recommendation has been submitted by the executive director or chief counsel to the Attorney General. Within 30 days of receiving that recommendation, the Attorney General shall review the recommendation and advise in writing the executive director or chief counsel of the board of his or her conclusions as to whether the recommendation is reasonable from an overall perspective. The executive director or chief counsel shall, with each recommendation of settlement submitted to the board, itself, also submit the Attorney General's written conclusions obtained pursuant to this paragraph.
- (3) A settlement of any civil tax matter in dispute involving a reduction of tax or penalties in settlement, the total of which reduction of tax and penalties in settlement does not exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000), may be approved by the executive director and chief counsel, jointly. The executive director shall notify the board, itself, of any settlement approved pursuant to this paragraph.
- (c) Whenever a reduction of tax or penalties or total tax and penalties in settlement in excess of five hundred dollars (\$500) is approved

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pursuant to this section, there shall be placed on file, for at least one year, in the office of the executive director of the board a public record with respect to that settlement. The public record shall include all of the following information:

- (1) The name or names of the taxpayers who are parties to the settlement.
 - (2) The total amount in dispute.
 - (3) The amount agreed to pursuant to the settlement.
- (4) A summary of the reasons why the settlement is in the best interests of the State of California.
- (5) For any settlement approved by the board, itself, the Attorney General's conclusion as to whether the recommendation of settlement was reasonable from an overall perspective.

- (d) The members of the State Board of Equalization shall not participate in the settlement of tax matters pursuant to this section, except as provided in subdivision (e).
- (e) (1) Any recommendation for settlement shall be approved or disapproved by the board, itself, within 45 days of the submission of that recommendation to the board. Any recommendation for settlement that is not either approved or disapproved by the board, itself, within 45 days of the submission of that recommendation shall be deemed approved. Upon approval of a recommendation for settlement, the matter shall be referred back to the executive director or chief counsel in accordance with the decision of the board.
- (2) Disapproval of a recommendation for settlement shall be made only by a majority vote of the board. Where the board disapproves a recommendation for settlement, the matter shall be remanded to board staff for further negotiation, and may be resubmitted to the board, in the same manner and subject to the same requirements as the initial submission, at the discretion of the executive director or chief counsel.
- (f) All settlements entered into pursuant to this section shall be final and nonappealable, except upon a showing of fraud or misrepresentation with respect to a material fact.
- (g) Any proceedings undertaken by the board itself pursuant to a settlement as described in this section shall be conducted in a closed session or sessions. Except as provided in subdivision (c), any settlement considered or entered into pursuant to this section shall constitute confidential tax information for purposes of Section 7056.

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- (h) This section shall apply only to civil tax matters in dispute on or after the effective date of the act adding this subdivision.
- (i) The Legislature finds that it is essential for fiscal purposes that the settlement program authorized by this section be expeditiously implemented. Accordingly, Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code shall not apply to any determination, rule, notice, or guideline established or issued by the board in implementing and administering the settlement program authorized by this section.
- SEC. 4. Section 7262.7 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is repealed.
- SEC. 5. Section 7326 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is amended to read:
- 7326. "Motor vehicle fuel" means gasoline and aviation gasoline. It does not include jet fuel, diesel fuel, kerosene, liquefied petroleum gas, natural gas in liquid or gaseous form, alcohol, or racing fuel.
- SEC. 6. Section 8105 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is amended to read:
- 8105. All applications for refund provided under this article shall be filed within three years from the date of the purchase of the motor vehicle fuel or, if the tax was not invoiced at the time of the purchase of the motor vehicle fuel, the application for refund shall be filed within six months after the receipt of an invoice for the tax, whichever period expires later. Any application filed after the time prescribed shall not be considered for any purpose by the Controller, the Treasurer, or the state.
- SEC. 7. Section 9271 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is amended to read:
- 9271. (a) It is the intent of the Legislature that the State Board of Equalization, its staff, and the Attorney General pursue settlements as authorized under this section with respect to civil tax matters in dispute that are the subject of protests, appeals, or refund claims, consistent with a reasonable evaluation of the costs and risks associated with litigation of these matters.
- (b) (1) Subject to paragraph (2), the executive director or chief counsel, if authorized by the executive director, of the board may recommend to the State Board of Equalization, itself, a settlement of any civil tax matter in dispute.
- (2) No recommendation of settlement shall be submitted to the board unless and until that recommendation has been submitted by the executive director or chief counsel to the Attorney General. Within 30 days of receiving that recommendation, the Attorney General shall review the recommendation and advise, in writing, the executive director or chief counsel of the board of his or her conclusions as to

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whether the recommendation is reasonable from an overall perspective. The executive director or chief counsel shall, with each recommendation of settlement submitted to the board, also submit the Attorney General's written conclusions obtained pursuant to this paragraph.

- (c) Whenever a reduction of tax in settlement in excess of five hundred dollars (\$500) is approved pursuant to this section, there shall be placed on file, for at least one year, in the office of the executive director of the board a public record with respect to that settlement. The public record shall include all of the following information:
- (1) The name or names of the taxpayers who are parties to the settlement.
 - (2) The total amount in dispute.
 - (3) The amount agreed to pursuant to the settlement.
- (4) A summary of the reasons why the settlement is in the best interests of the State of California.
- (5) The Attorney General's conclusion as to whether the recommendation of settlement was reasonable from an overall perspective.

- (d) The members of the State Board of Equalization shall not participate in the settlement of tax matters pursuant to this section, except as provided in subdivision (e).
- (e) (1) Any recommendation for settlement shall be approved or disapproved by the board, itself, within 45 days of the submission of that recommendation to the board. Any recommendation for settlement that is not either approved or disapproved by the board within 45 days of the submission of that recommendation shall be deemed approved. Upon approval of a recommendation for settlement, the matter shall be referred back to the executive director or chief counsel in accordance with the decision of the board.
- (2) Disapproval of a recommendation for settlement shall be made only by a majority vote of the board. Where the board disapproves a recommendation for settlement, the matter shall be remanded to board staff for further negotiation, and may be resubmitted to the board, in the same manner and subject to the same requirements as the initial submission, at the discretion of the executive director or chief counsel.
- (f) All settlements entered into pursuant to this section shall be final and nonappealable, except upon a showing of fraud or misrepresentation with respect to a material fact.

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- (g) Any proceedings undertaken by the board itself pursuant to a settlement as described in this section shall be conducted in a closed session or sessions. Except as provided in subdivision (c), any settlement entered into pursuant to this section shall constitute confidential tax information for purposes of Section 9255.
- (h) This section shall apply only to civil tax matters in dispute on or after the effective date of the act adding this subdivision.
- (i) The Legislature finds that it is essential for fiscal purposes that the settlement program authorized by this section be expeditiously implemented. Accordingly, Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code shall not apply to any determination, rule, notice, or guideline established or issued by the board in implementing and administering the settlement program authorized by this section.
- SEC. 8. Section 30459.1 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is amended to read:
- 30459.1. (a) It is the intent of the Legislature that the State Board of Equalization, its staff, and the Attorney General pursue settlements as authorized under this section with respect to civil tax matters in dispute that are the subject of protests, appeals, or refund claims, consistent with a reasonable evaluation of the costs and risks associated with litigation of these matters.
- (b) (1) Subject to paragraph (2), the executive director or chief counsel, if authorized by the executive director, of the board may recommend to the State Board of Equalization, itself, a settlement of any civil tax matter in dispute.
- (2) No recommendation of settlement shall be submitted to the board unless and until that recommendation has been submitted by the executive director or chief counsel to the Attorney General. Within 30 days of receiving that recommendation, the Attorney General shall review the recommendation and advise, in writing, the executive director or chief counsel of the board of his or her conclusions as to whether the recommendation is reasonable from an overall perspective. The executive director or chief counsel shall, with each recommendation of settlement submitted to the board, also submit the Attorney General's written conclusions obtained pursuant to this paragraph.
- (c) Whenever a reduction of tax in settlement in excess of five hundred dollars (\$500) is approved pursuant to this section, there shall be placed on file, for at least one year, in the office of the executive director of the board a public record with respect to that settlement. The public record shall include all of the following information:
- (1) The name or names of the taxpayers who are parties to the settlement.

- (2) The total amount in dispute.
- (3) The amount agreed to pursuant to the settlement.
- (4) A summary of the reasons why the settlement is in the best interests of the State of California.
- (5) The Attorney General's conclusion as to whether the recommendation of settlement was reasonable from an overall perspective.

- (d) The members of the State Board of Equalization shall not participate in the settlement of tax matters pursuant to this section, except as provided in subdivision (e).
- (e) (1) Any recommendation for settlement shall be approved or disapproved by the board, itself, within 45 days of the submission of that recommendation to the board. Any recommendation for settlement that is not either approved or disapproved by the board within 45 days of the submission of that recommendation shall be deemed approved. Upon approval of a recommendation for settlement, the matter shall be referred back to the executive director or chief counsel in accordance with the decision of the board.
- (2) Disapproval of a recommendation for settlement shall be made only by a majority vote of the board. Where the board disapproves a recommendation for settlement, the matter shall be remanded to board staff for further negotiation, and may be resubmitted to the board, in the same manner and subject to the same requirements as the initial submission, at the discretion of the executive director or chief counsel.
- (f) All settlements entered into pursuant to this section shall be final and nonappealable, except upon a showing of fraud or misrepresentation with respect to a material fact.
- (g) Any proceedings undertaken by the board itself pursuant to a settlement as described in this section shall be conducted in a closed session or sessions. Except as provided in subdivision (c), any settlement entered into pursuant to this section shall constitute confidential tax information for purposes of Section 30455.
- (h) This section shall apply only to civil tax matters in dispute on or after the effective date of the act adding this subdivision.
- (i) The Legislature finds that it is essential for fiscal purposes that the settlement program authorized by this section be expeditiously implemented. Accordingly, Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code shall not apply to any determination, rule, notice, or guideline established or

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issued by the board in implementing and administering the settlement program authorized by this section.

- SEC. 9. Section 32471 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is amended to read:
- 32471. (a) It is the intent of the Legislature that the State Board of Equalization, its staff, and the Attorney General pursue settlements as authorized under this section with respect to civil tax matters in dispute that are the subject of protests, appeals, or refund claims, consistent with a reasonable evaluation of the costs and risks associated with litigation of these matters.
- (b) (1) Subject to paragraph (2), the executive director or chief counsel, if authorized by the executive director, of the board may recommend to the State Board of Equalization, itself, a settlement of any civil tax matter in dispute.
- (2) No recommendation of settlement shall be submitted to the board unless and until that recommendation has been submitted by the executive director or chief counsel to the Attorney General. Within 30 days of receiving that recommendation, the Attorney General shall review the recommendation and advise, in writing, the executive director or chief counsel of the board of his or her conclusions as to whether the recommendation is reasonable from an overall perspective. The executive director or chief counsel shall, with each recommendation of settlement submitted to the board, also submit the Attorney General's written conclusions obtained pursuant to this paragraph.
- (c) Whenever a reduction of tax in settlement in excess of five hundred dollars (\$500) is approved pursuant to this section, there shall be placed on file, for at least one year, in the office of the executive director of the board a public record with respect to that settlement. The public record shall include all of the following information:
- (1) The name or names of the taxpayers who are parties to the settlement.
 - (2) The total amount in dispute.
 - (3) The amount agreed to pursuant to the settlement.
- (4) A summary of the reasons why the settlement is in the best interests of the State of California.
- (5) The Attorney General's conclusion as to whether the recommendation of settlement was reasonable from an overall perspective.

- (d) The members of the State Board of Equalization shall not participate in the settlement of tax matters pursuant to this section, except as provided in subdivision (e).
- (e) (1) Any recommendation for settlement shall be approved or disapproved by the board, itself, within 45 days of the submission of that recommendation to the board. Any recommendation for settlement that is not either approved or disapproved by the board within 45 days of the submission of that recommendation shall be deemed approved. Upon approval of a recommendation for settlement, the matter shall be referred back to the executive director or chief counsel in accordance with the decision of the board.
- (2) Disapproval of a recommendation for settlement shall be made only by a majority vote of the board. Where the board disapproves a recommendation for settlement, the matter shall be remanded to board staff for further negotiation, and may be resubmitted to the board, in the same manner and subject to the same requirements as the initial submission, at the discretion of the executive director or chief counsel.
- (f) All settlements entered into pursuant to this section shall be final and nonappealable, except upon a showing of fraud or misrepresentation with respect to a material fact.
- (g) Any proceedings undertaken by the board itself pursuant to a settlement as described in this section shall be conducted in a closed session or sessions. Except as provided in subdivision (c), any settlement entered into pursuant to this section shall constitute confidential tax information for purposes of Section 32455.
- (h) This section shall apply only to civil tax matters in dispute on or after the effective date of the act adding this subdivision.
- (i) The Legislature finds that it is essential for fiscal purposes that the settlement program authorized by this section be expeditiously implemented. Accordingly, Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code shall not apply to any determination, rule, notice, or guideline established or issued by the board in implementing and administering the settlement program authorized by this section.
- SEC. 10. Section 40211 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is amended to read:
- 40211. (a) It is the intent of the Legislature that the State Board of Equalization, its staff, and the Attorney General pursue settlements as authorized under this section with respect to surcharge matters in dispute that are the subject of protests, appeals, or refund claims, consistent with a reasonable evaluation of the costs and risks associated with litigation of these matters.

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- (b) (1) Subject to paragraph (2), the executive director or chief counsel, if authorized by the executive director, of the board may recommend to the State Board of Equalization, itself, a settlement of any surcharge matter in dispute.
- (2) No recommendation of settlement shall be submitted to the board unless and until that recommendation has been submitted by the executive director or chief counsel to the Attorney General. Within 30 days of receiving that recommendation, the Attorney General shall review the recommendation and advise, in writing, the executive director or chief counsel of the board of his or her conclusions as to whether the recommendation is reasonable from an overall perspective. The executive director or chief counsel shall, with each recommendation of settlement submitted to the board, also submit the Attorney General's written conclusions obtained pursuant to this paragraph.
- (c) Whenever a reduction of surcharge in settlement in excess of five hundred dollars (\$500) is approved pursuant to this section, there shall be placed on file, for at least one year, in the office of the executive director of the board a public record with respect to that settlement. The public record shall include all of the following information:
- (1) The name or names of the surcharge payers who are parties to the settlement.
 - (2) The total amount in dispute.
 - (3) The amount agreed to pursuant to the settlement.
- (4) A summary of the reasons why the settlement is in the best interests of the State of California.
- (5) The Attorney General's conclusion as to whether the recommendation of settlement was reasonable from an overall perspective.

- (d) The members of the State Board of Equalization shall not participate in the settlement of surcharge matters pursuant to this section, except as provided in subdivision (e).
- (e) (1) Any recommendation for settlement shall be approved or disapproved by the board, itself, within 45 days of the submission of that recommendation to the board. Any recommendation for settlement that is not either approved or disapproved by the board within 45 days of the submission of that recommendation shall be deemed approved. Upon approval of a recommendation for settlement, the matter shall be referred back to the executive director or chief counsel in accordance with the decision of the board.

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- (2) Disapproval of a recommendation for settlement shall be made only by a majority vote of the board. Where the board disapproves a recommendation for settlement, the matter shall be remanded to board staff for further negotiation, and may be resubmitted to the board, in the same manner and subject to the same requirements as the initial submission, at the discretion of the executive director or chief counsel.
- (f) All settlements entered into pursuant to this section shall be final and nonappealable, except upon a showing of fraud or misrepresentation with respect to a material fact.
- (g) Any proceedings undertaken by the board itself pursuant to a settlement as described in this section shall be conducted in a closed session or sessions.
- (h) This section shall apply only to surcharge matters in dispute on or after the effective date of the act adding this subdivision.
- (i) The Legislature finds that it is essential for fiscal purposes that the settlement program authorized by this section be expeditiously implemented. Accordingly, Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code shall not apply to any determination, rule, notice, or guideline established or issued by the board in implementing and administering the settlement program authorized by this section.
- SEC. 11. Section 41171 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is amended to read:
- 41171. (a) It is the intent of the Legislature that the State Board of Equalization, its staff, and the Attorney General pursue settlements as authorized under this section with respect to surcharge matters in dispute that are the subject of protests, appeals, or refund claims, consistent with a reasonable evaluation of the costs and risks associated with litigation of these matters.
- (b) (1) Subject to paragraph (2), the executive director or chief counsel, if authorized by the executive director, of the board may recommend to the State Board of Equalization, itself, a settlement of any surcharge matter in dispute.
- (2) No recommendation of settlement shall be submitted to the board unless and until that recommendation has been submitted by the executive director or chief counsel to the Attorney General. Within 30 days of receiving that recommendation, the Attorney General shall review the recommendation and advise, in writing, the executive director or chief counsel of the board of his or her conclusions as to whether the recommendation is reasonable from an overall perspective. The executive director or chief counsel shall, with each recommendation of settlement submitted to the board, also submit the Attorney General's written conclusions obtained pursuant to this paragraph.

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- (c) Whenever a reduction of surcharge in settlement in excess of five hundred dollars (\$500) is approved pursuant to this section, there shall be placed on file, for at least one year, in the office of the executive director of the board a public record with respect to that settlement. The public record shall include all of the following information:
- (1) The name or names of the surcharge payers who are parties to the settlement.
 - (2) The total amount in dispute.
 - (3) The amount agreed to pursuant to the settlement.
- (4) A summary of the reasons why the settlement is in the best interests of the State of California.
- (5) The Attorney General's conclusion as to whether the recommendation of settlement was reasonable from an overall perspective.

- (d) The members of the State Board of Equalization shall not participate in the settlement of surcharge matters pursuant to this section, except as provided in subdivision (e).
- (e) (1) Any recommendation for settlement shall be approved or disapproved by the board, itself, within 45 days of the submission of that recommendation to the board. Any recommendation for settlement that is not either approved or disapproved by the board within 45 days of the submission of that recommendation shall be deemed approved. Upon approval of a recommendation for settlement, the matter shall be referred back to the executive director or chief counsel in accordance with the decision of the board.
- (2) Disapproval of a recommendation for settlement shall be made only by a majority vote of the board. Where the board disapproves a recommendation for settlement, the matter shall be remanded to board staff for further negotiation, and may be resubmitted to the board, in the same manner and subject to the same requirements as the initial submission, at the discretion of the executive director or chief counsel.
- (f) All settlements entered into pursuant to this section shall be final and nonappealable, except upon a showing of fraud or misrepresentation with respect to a material fact.
- (g) Any proceedings undertaken by the board itself pursuant to a settlement as described in this section shall be conducted in a closed session or sessions.
- (h) This section shall apply only to surcharge matters in dispute on or after the effective date of the act adding this subdivision.

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- (i) The Legislature finds that it is essential for fiscal purposes that the settlement program authorized by this section be expeditiously implemented. Accordingly, Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code shall not apply to any determination, rule, notice, or guideline established or issued by the board in implementing and administering the settlement program authorized by this section.
- SEC. 12. Section 43522 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is amended to read:
- 43522. (a) It is the intent of the Legislature that the State Board of Equalization, its staff, and the Attorney General pursue settlements as authorized under this section with respect to civil tax matters in dispute that are the subject of protests, appeals, or refund claims, consistent with a reasonable evaluation of the costs and risks associated with litigation of these matters.
- (b) (1) Subject to paragraph (2), the executive director or chief counsel, if authorized by the executive director, of the board may recommend to the State Board of Equalization, itself, a settlement of any civil tax matter in dispute which arises under Section 105190 or 105310 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (2) No recommendation of settlement shall be submitted to the board unless and until that recommendation has been submitted by the executive director or chief counsel to the Attorney General. Within 30 days of receiving that recommendation, the Attorney General shall review the recommendation and advise, in writing, the executive director or chief counsel of the board of his or her conclusions as to whether the recommendation is reasonable from an overall perspective. The executive director or chief counsel shall, with each recommendation of settlement submitted to the board, also submit the Attorney General's written conclusions obtained pursuant to this paragraph.
- (c) Whenever a reduction of tax in settlement in excess of five hundred dollars (\$500) is approved pursuant to this section, there shall be placed on file, for at least one year, in the office of the executive director of the board a public record with respect to that settlement. The public record shall include all of the following information:
- (1) The name or names of the taxpayers who are parties to the settlement.
 - (2) The total amount in dispute.
 - (3) The amount agreed to pursuant to the settlement.
- (4) A summary of the reasons why the settlement is in the best interests of the State of California.

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(5) The Attorney General's conclusion as to whether the recommendation of settlement was reasonable from an overall perspective.

- (d) The members of the State Board of Equalization shall not participate in the settlement of tax matters pursuant to this section, except as provided in subdivision (e).
- (e) (1) Any recommendation for settlement shall be approved or disapproved by the board, itself, within 45 days of the submission of that recommendation to the board. Any recommendation for settlement that is not either approved or disapproved by the board within 45 days of the submission of that recommendation shall be deemed approved. Upon approval of a recommendation for settlement, the matter shall be referred back to the executive director or chief counsel in accordance with the decision of the board.
- (2) Disapproval of a recommendation for settlement shall be made only by a majority vote of the board. Where the board disapproves a recommendation for settlement, the matter shall be remanded to board staff for further negotiation, and may be resubmitted to the board, in the same manner and subject to the same requirements as the initial submission, at the discretion of the executive director or chief counsel.
- (f) All settlements entered into pursuant to this section shall be final and nonappealable, except upon a showing of fraud or misrepresentation with respect to a material fact.
- (g) Any proceedings undertaken by the board itself pursuant to a settlement as described in this section shall be conducted in a closed session or sessions. Except as provided in subdivision (c), any settlement entered into pursuant to this section shall constitute confidential tax information for purposes of Section 43651.
- (h) This section shall apply only to civil tax matters in dispute on or after the effective date of the act adding this subdivision.
- (i) The Legislature finds that it is essential for fiscal purposes that the settlement program authorized by this section be expeditiously implemented. Accordingly, Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code shall not apply to any determination, rule, notice, or guideline established or issued by the board in implementing and administering the settlement program authorized by this section.
- SEC. 13. Section 45867 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is amended to read:

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- 45867. (a) It is the intent of the Legislature that the State Board of Equalization, its staff, and the Attorney General pursue settlements as authorized under this section with respect to fee matters in dispute that are the subject of protests, appeals, or refund claims, consistent with a reasonable evaluation of the costs and risks associated with litigation of these matters.
- (b) (1) Subject to paragraph (2), the executive director or chief counsel, if authorized by the executive director, of the board may recommend to the State Board of Equalization, itself, a settlement of any fee matter in dispute.
- (2) No recommendation of settlement shall be submitted to the board unless and until that recommendation has been submitted by the executive director or chief counsel to the Attorney General. Within 30 days of receiving that recommendation, the Attorney General shall review the recommendation and advise, in writing, the executive director or chief counsel of the board of his or her conclusions as to whether the recommendation is reasonable from an overall perspective. The executive director or chief counsel shall, with each recommendation of settlement submitted to the board, also submit the Attorney General's written conclusions obtained pursuant to this paragraph.
- (c) Whenever a reduction of fees in settlement in excess of five hundred dollars (\$500) is approved pursuant to this section, there shall be placed on file, for at least one year, in the office of the executive director of the board a public record with respect to that settlement. The public record shall include all of the following information:
- (1) The name or names of the feepayers who are parties to the settlement.
 - (2) The total amount in dispute.
 - (3) The amount agreed to pursuant to the settlement.
- (4) A summary of the reasons why the settlement is in the best interests of the State of California.
- (5) The Attorney General's conclusion as to whether the recommendation of settlement was reasonable from an overall perspective.

- (d) The members of the State Board of Equalization shall not participate in the settlement of fee matters pursuant to this section, except as provided in subdivision (e).
- (e) (1) Any recommendation for settlement shall be approved or disapproved by the board, itself, within 45 days of the submission of that

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recommendation to the board. Any recommendation for settlement that is not either approved or disapproved by the board within 45 days of the submission of that recommendation shall be deemed approved. Upon approval of a recommendation for settlement, the matter shall be referred back to the executive director or chief counsel in accordance with the decision of the board.

- (2) Disapproval of a recommendation for settlement shall be made only by a majority vote of the board. Where the board disapproves a recommendation for settlement, the matter shall be remanded to board staff for further negotiation, and may be resubmitted to the board, in the same manner and subject to the same requirements as the initial submission, at the discretion of the executive director or chief counsel.
- (f) All settlements entered into pursuant to this section shall be final and nonappealable, except upon a showing of fraud or misrepresentation with respect to a material fact.
- (g) Any proceedings undertaken by the board itself pursuant to a settlement as described in this section shall be conducted in a closed session or sessions. Except as provided in subdivision (c), any settlement entered into pursuant to this section shall constitute confidential information for purposes of Section 45982.
- (h) This section shall apply only to fee matters in dispute on or after the effective date of the act adding this subdivision.
- (i) The Legislature finds that it is essential for fiscal purposes that the settlement program authorized by this section be expeditiously implemented. Accordingly, Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code shall not apply to any determination, rule, notice, or guideline established or issued by the board in implementing and administering the settlement program authorized by this section.
- SEC. 14. Section 46622 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is amended to read:
- 46622. (a) It is the intent of the Legislature that the State Board of Equalization, its staff, and the Attorney General pursue settlements as authorized under this section with respect to fee matters in dispute that are the subject of protests, appeals, or refund claims, consistent with a reasonable evaluation of the costs and risks associated with litigation of these matters.
- (b) (1) Subject to paragraph (2), the executive director or chief counsel, if authorized by the executive director, of the board may recommend to the State Board of Equalization, itself, a settlement of any civil fee matter in dispute.
- (2) No recommendation of settlement shall be submitted to the board unless and until that recommendation has been submitted by the

executive director or chief counsel to the Attorney General. Within 30 days of receiving that recommendation, the Attorney General shall review the recommendation and advise, in writing, the executive director or chief counsel of the board of his or her conclusions as to whether the recommendation is reasonable from an overall perspective. The executive director or chief counsel shall, with each recommendation of settlement submitted to the board, also submit the Attorney General's written conclusions obtained pursuant to this paragraph.

- (c) Whenever a reduction of fee in settlement in excess of five hundred dollars (\$500) is approved pursuant to this section, there shall be placed on file, for at least one year, in the office of the executive director of the board a public record with respect to that settlement. The public record shall include all of the following information:
- (1) The name or names of the feepayers who are parties to the settlement.
 - (2) The total amount in dispute.
 - (3) The amount agreed to pursuant to the settlement.
- (4) A summary of the reasons why the settlement is in the best interests of the State of California.
- (5) The Attorney General's conclusion as to whether the recommendation of settlement was reasonable from an overall perspective.

- (d) The members of the State Board of Equalization shall not participate in the settlement of fee matters pursuant to this section, except as provided in subdivision (e).
- (e) (1) Any recommendation of settlement shall be approved or disapproved by the board, itself, within 45 days of the submission of that recommendation to the board. Any recommendation for settlement that is not either approved or disappproved by the board within 45 days of the submission of that recommendation shall be deemed approved. Upon approval of a recommendation for settlement, the matter shall be referred back to the executive director or chief counsel in accordance with the decision of the board.
- (2) Disapproval of a recommendation for settlement shall be made only by a majority vote of the board. Where the board disapproves a recommendation for settlement, the matter shall be remanded to board staff for further negotiation, and may be resubmitted to the board, in the same manner and subject to the same requirements as the initial submission, at the discretion of the executive director or chief counsel.

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- (f) All settlements entered into pursuant to this section shall be final and nonappealable, except upon a showing of fraud or misrepresentation with respect to a material fact.
- (g) Any proceedings undertaken by the board itself pursuant to a settlement as described in this section shall be conducted in a closed session or sessions.
- (h) This section shall apply only to fee matters in dispute on or after the effective date of the act adding this subdivision.
- (i) The Legislature finds that it is essential for fiscal purposes that the settlement program authorized by this section be expeditiously implemented. Accordingly, Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code shall not apply to any determination, rule, notice, or guideline established or issued by the board in implementing and administering the settlement program authorized by this section.
- SEC. 15. Section 50156.11 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is amended to read:
- 50156.11. (a) It is the intent of the Legislature that the State Board of Equalization, its staff, and the Attorney General pursue settlements as authorized under this section with respect to fee matters in dispute that are the subject of protests, appeals, or refund claims, consistent with a reasonable evaluation of the costs and risks associated with litigation of these matters.
- (b) (1) Subject to paragraph (2), the executive director or chief counsel, if authorized by the executive director, of the board may recommend to the State Board of Equalization, itself, a settlement of any fee matter in dispute.
- (2) No recommendation of settlement shall be submitted to the board unless and until that recommendation has been submitted by the executive director or chief counsel to the Attorney General. Within 30 days of receiving that recommendation, the Attorney General shall review the recommendation and advise, in writing, the executive director or chief counsel of the board of his or her conclusions as to whether the recommendation is reasonable from an overall perspective. The executive director or chief counsel shall, with each recommendation of settlement submitted to the board, also submit the Attorney General's written conclusions obtained pursuant to this paragraph.
- (c) Whenever a reduction of fees in settlement in excess of five hundred dollars (\$500) is approved pursuant to this section, there shall be placed on file, for at least one year, in the office of the executive director of the board a public record with respect to that settlement. The public record shall include all of the following information:

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(1) The name or names of the feepayers who are parties to the settlement.

- (2) The total amount in dispute.
- (3) The amount agreed to pursuant to the settlement.
- (4) A summary of the reasons why the settlement is in the best interests of the State of California.
- (5) The Attorney General's conclusion as to whether the recommendation of settlement was reasonable from an overall perspective.

- (d) The members of the State Board of Equalization shall not participate in the settlement of fee matters pursuant to this section, except as provided in subdivision (e).
- (e) (1) Any recommendation for settlement shall be approved or disapproved by the board, itself, within 45 days of the submission of that recommendation to the board. Any recommendation for settlement that is not either approved or disapproved by the board within 45 days of the submission of that recommendation shall be deemed approved. Upon approval of a recommendation for settlement, the matter shall be referred back to the executive director or chief counsel in accordance with the decision of the board.
- (2) Disapproval of a recommendation for settlement shall be made only by a majority vote of the board. Where the board disapproves a recommendation for settlement, the matter shall be remanded to board staff for further negotiation, and may be resubmitted to the board, in the same manner and subject to the same requirements as the initial submission, at the discretion of the executive director or chief counsel.
- (f) All settlements entered into pursuant to this section shall be final and nonappealable, except upon a showing of fraud or misrepresentation with respect to a material fact.
- (g) Any proceedings undertaken by the board itself pursuant to a settlement as described in this section shall be conducted in a closed session or sessions.
- (h) This section shall apply only to fee matters in dispute on or after the effective date of the act adding this subdivision.
- (i) The Legislature finds that it is essential for fiscal purposes that the settlement program authorized by this section be expeditiously implemented. Accordingly, Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code shall not apply to any determination, rule, notice, or guideline established or

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issued by the board in implementing and administering the settlement program authorized by this section.

- SEC. 16. Section 55332 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is amended to read:
- 55332. (a) It is the intent of the Legislature that the State Board of Equalization, its staff, and the Attorney General pursue settlements as authorized under this section with respect to fee matters in dispute that are the subject of protests, appeals, or refund claims, consistent with a reasonable evaluation of the costs and risks associated with litigation of these matters.
- (b) (1) Subject to paragraph (2), the executive director or chief counsel, if authorized by the executive director, of the board may recommend to the State Board of Equalization, itself, a settlement of any fee matter in dispute.
- (2) No recommendation of settlement shall be submitted to the board unless and until that recommendation has been submitted by the executive director or chief counsel to the Attorney General. Within 30 days of receiving that recommendation, the Attorney General shall review the recommendation and advise, in writing, the executive director or chief counsel of the board of his or her conclusions as to whether the recommendation is reasonable from an overall perspective. The executive director or chief counsel shall, with each recommendation of settlement submitted to the board, also submit the Attorney General's written conclusions obtained pursuant to this paragraph.
- (c) Whenever a reduction of fees in settlement in excess of five hundred dollars (\$500) is approved pursuant to this section, there shall be placed on file, for at least one year, in the office of the executive director of the board a public record with respect to that settlement. The public record shall include all of the following information:
- (1) The name or names of the feepayers who are parties to the settlement.
 - (2) The total amount in dispute.
 - (3) The amount agreed to pursuant to the settlement.
- (4) A summary of the reasons why the settlement is in the best interests of the State of California.
- (5) The Attorney General's conclusion as to whether the recommendation of settlement was reasonable from an overall perspective.

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- (d) The members of the State Board of Equalization shall not participate in the settlement of fee matters pursuant to this section, except as provided in subdivision (e).
- (e) (1) Any recommendation for settlement shall be approved or disapproved by the board, itself, within 45 days of the submission of that recommendation to the board. Any recommendation for settlement that is not either approved or disapproved by the board within 45 days of the submission of that recommendation shall be deemed approved. Upon approval of a recommendation for settlement, the matter shall be referred back to the executive director or chief counsel in accordance with the decision of the board.
- (2) Disapproval of a recommendation for settlement shall be made only by a majority vote of the board. Where the board disapproves a recommendation for settlement, the matter shall be remanded to board staff for further negotiation, and may be resubmitted to the board, in the same manner and subject to the same requirements as the initial submission, at the discretion of the executive director or chief counsel.
- (f) All settlements entered into pursuant to this section shall be final and nonappealable, except upon a showing of fraud or misrepresentation with respect to a material fact.
- (g) Any proceedings undertaken by the board itself pursuant to a settlement as described in this section shall be conducted in a closed session or sessions. Except as provided in subdivision (c), any settlement entered into pursuant to this section shall constitute confidential information for purposes of Section 55381.
- (h) This section shall apply only to fee matters in dispute on or after the effective date of the act adding this subdivision.
- (i) The Legislature finds that it is essential for fiscal purposes that the settlement program authorized by this section be expeditiously implemented. Accordingly, Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code shall not apply to any determination, rule, notice, or guideline established or issued by the board in implementing and administering the settlement program authorized by this section.
- SEC. 17. Section 60022 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, as added by Section 3 of Chapter 8 of the Second Extraordinary Session of 2001, is amended to read:
- 60022. (a) "Diesel fuel" means any liquid that is commonly or commercially known or sold as a fuel that is suitable for use in a diesel-powered highway vehicle. A liquid meets this requirement if, without further processing or blending, the liquid has practical and commercial fitness for use in the engine of a diesel-powered highway vehicle.

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However, a liquid does not possess this practical and commercial fitness solely by reason of its possible or rare use as a fuel in the engine of a diesel-powered highway vehicle.

"Diesel fuel" does not include kerosene, gasoline, liquified petroleum gas, natural gas in liquid or gaseous form, or alcohol.

(b) This section shall become operative on January 1, 2007.

SEC. 18. Section 60507 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is amended to read:

60507. All applications for refund provided under this article shall be filed within three years from the date of the purchase of the diesel fuel or, if the tax was not invoiced at the time of the purchase of the diesel fuel, the application for refund shall be filed within six months after the receipt of an invoice for the tax, whichever period expires later. Any application filed after the time prescribed shall not be considered for any purpose by the board, the Treasurer, or the state.

SEC. 19. Section 60604 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is amended to read:

60604. Every interstate user, supplier, exempt bus operator, government entity, ultimate vendor, qualified highway vehicle operator, highway vehicle operator/refueler, train operator, pipeline operator, vessel operator, and every person dealing in, removing, transporting, or storing diesel fuel in this state shall keep those records, receipts, invoices, and other pertinent papers with respect thereto in that form as the board may require. Failure to maintain records will constitute a misdemeanor punishable as provided in Section 60706.

SEC. 20. Section 60606 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is amended to read:

60606. The board or its authorized representative may examine the books, records, and equipment of any interstate user, supplier, exempt bus operator, government entity, ultimate vendor, qualified highway vehicle operator, highway vehicle operator/refueler, train operator, pipeline operator, vessel operator, or person dealing in, removing, transporting, or storing diesel fuel and may investigate the character of the disposition that the interstate user, supplier, exempt bus operator, government entity, ultimate vendor, qualified highway vehicle operator, highway vehicle operator/refueler, train operator, pipeline operator, vessel operator, or person makes of the diesel fuel in order to ascertain whether all taxes due under this part are being properly reported and paid.

SEC. 21. Section 60636 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is amended to read:

60636. (a) It is the intent of the Legislature that the State Board of Equalization, its staff, and the Attorney General pursue settlements as

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authorized under this section with respect to civil tax matters in dispute that are the subject of protests, appeals, or refund claims, consistent with a reasonable evaluation of the costs and risks associated with litigation of these matters.

- (b) (1) Subject to paragraph (2), the executive director or chief counsel, if authorized by the executive director, of the board may recommend to the State Board of Equalization, itself, a settlement of any civil tax matter in dispute.
- (2) No recommendation of settlement shall be submitted to the board unless and until that recommendation has been submitted by the executive director or chief counsel to the Attorney General. Within 30 days of receiving that recommendation, the Attorney General shall review the recommendation and advise, in writing, the executive director or chief counsel of the board of his or her conclusions as to whether the recommendation is reasonable from an overall perspective. The executive director or chief counsel shall, with each recommendation of settlement submitted to the board, also submit the Attorney General's written conclusions obtained pursuant to this paragraph.
- (c) Whenever a reduction of tax in settlement in excess of five hundred dollars (\$500) is approved pursuant to this section, there shall be placed on file, for at least one year, in the office of the executive director of the board a public record with respect to that settlement. The public record shall include all of the following information:
- (1) The name or names of the taxpayers who are parties to the settlement.
 - (2) The total amount in dispute.
 - (3) The amount agreed to pursuant to the settlement.
- (4) A summary of the reasons why the settlement is in the best interests of the State of California.
- (5) The Attorney General's conclusion as to whether the recommendation of settlement was reasonable from an overall perspective.

- (d) The members of the State Board of Equalization shall not participate in the settlement of tax matters pursuant to this section, except as provided in subdivision (e).
- (e) (1) Any recommendation for settlement shall be approved or disapproved by the board, itself, within 45 days of the submission of that recommendation to the board. Any recommendation for settlement that is not either approved or disapproved by the board within 45 days of the

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submission of that recommendation shall be deemed approved. Upon approval of a recommendation for settlement, the matter shall be referred back to the executive director or chief counsel in accordance with the decision of the board.

- (2) Disapproval of a recommendation for settlement shall be made only by a majority vote of the board. Where the board disapproves a recommendation for settlement, the matter shall be remanded to board staff for further negotiation, and may be resubmitted to the board, in the same manner and subject to the same requirements as the initial submission, at the discretion of the executive director or chief counsel.
- (f) All settlements entered into pursuant to this section shall be final and nonappealable, except upon a showing of fraud or misrepresentation with respect to a material fact.
- (g) Any proceedings undertaken by the board itself pursuant to a settlement as described in this section shall be conducted in a closed session or sessions. Except as provided in subdivision (c), any settlement entered into pursuant to this section shall constitute confidential tax information for purposes of Section 60609.
- (h) This section shall apply only to civil tax matters in dispute on or after the effective date of the act adding this subdivision.
- (i) The Legislature finds that it is essential for fiscal purposes that the settlement program authorized by this section be expeditiously implemented. Accordingly, Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code shall not apply to any determination, rule, notice, or guideline established or issued by the board in implementing and administering the settlement program authorized by this section.
- SEC. 22. Section 2 of this act shall become operative only if Senate Bill 1009 is not enacted during the 2003 portion of the 2003–04 Regular Session.